

The New National Curriculum

The new National Curriculum was implemented in September 2014

The existing system of levels was removed and not replaced

This means there are changes to the tests this year at both key stages because they are based on the new National Curriculum, which your child has been taught since September 2014

Life without Levels

- Pupils study fewer things in greater depth in order to master fundamental concepts
- Assessment is focused on key concepts rather than achieving a particular level
- Priority is given to deep, secure understanding of key content rather than undue pace through levels
- Good fit not best fit – are they ready to move on?

What's Changed?

- English, Maths and Science remain core subjects
- Foundation subjects make up the remainder of the curriculum
- There has been a marked shift in expectations.

Key Changes - English

- More emphasis on the technical aspects of language
- Appendices give specific content to be covered in the areas of spelling and vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. These are set out yearly across both key stages

Parent Tip

Read stories to your child as much as you can as well as helping them read their coloured band book.

Keep learning the Tricky Words for reading and spelling.

Key Changes - Maths

- Mathematics - The main areas in the new programme of study for mathematics are called domains
- Every year group has a unique combination of domains and subdomains
- There is no longer a separate strand of objectives related to using and applying mathematics

Parent Tip

Remember little and often! There are plenty of opportunities for maths practice at home, from counting objects to simple board games.

What are children expected to achieve?

- At the end of each academic year, the government expect the majority of children to achieve age related expectations (ARE) in English and Maths
- Compulsory SATs tests are taken at the end of Years 2 and 6

High Achievers

We will encourage greater in-depth investigative work to deepen and broaden their knowledge in order to support greater mastery and understanding of concepts.

New curriculum, new standards, new tests

Subject	Test paper
English reading	2 papers: short text and questions; longer text with separate questions
English grammar, punctuation and spelling	2 papers: spelling; punctuation and grammar (including vocabulary)
Mathematics	2 papers: arithmetic; mathematical reasoning

What next?

In June the DfE will provide another leaflet to explain how and when the tests and assessments will be reported to parents. They will also provide information about how the results are used.

Visit www.gov.uk/government/publications/2016-national-curriculum-tests-for-key-stages-1-and-2-information-for-parents for more information